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PATENT

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Date May 1, 2002

Stephanie Jansen

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gundu M. Sabde and
Whonchee Lee

Attorney Docket No.: 500163.04

Serial No. : 09/915,658

Group Art Unit : 3723

Filed : July 25, 2001

Examiner : Not yet assigned

Title : METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR PLANARIZING MICROELECTRONIC
SUBSTRATE ASSEMBLIES

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 through 1.98, applicants wish to make known to the Patent and Trademark Office the references set forth on the attached form PTO-1449 (copies of the cited references, as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, are enclosed). Although the aforesaid references are made known to the Patent and Trademark Office in compliance with applicants' duty to disclose all information they are aware of which is believed relevant to the examination of the above-identified application, applicants believe that their invention is patentable.

The instant application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/356,808, filed July 20, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,306,012, issued October 23, 2001. Applicants also wish to make known to the Patent and Trademark Office that an application, Serial No. 09/915,657, describing and claiming subject matter that is similar to the subject matter of this application, was filed on July 25, 2001. This related application, which is a divisional of

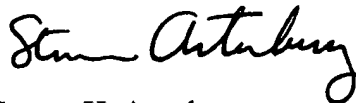
above-referenced Application No. 09/356,808, filed July 20, 1999, as well as any prior art cited therein, may be material to the examination of this application. The specification, claims, abstract and drawings of this related application as filed are identical to those currently on file in the instant application as filed, therefore a duplicate copy is not submitted herewith.

I hereby certify that no item set forth on the attached form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

Please acknowledge receipt of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and kindly make the cited references of record in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP



Steven H. Arterberry
Registration No. 46,314

SHA:sj

Enclosures:

Postcard
Form PTO-1449
Cited References (4)

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FORM PTO-1449
(REV. 7-80)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

500163.04

APPLICATION NO.

09/915,658

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)

Gundu M. Sabde and Whonchee Lee

FILING DATE

July 25, 2001

GROUP ART UNIT

3723

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER R INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------------|----|-----------------|----------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | AA | 5,989,111 | 11/23/99 | Lamphere et al. | 451 | 526 | |
| | AB | 6,165,061 | 12/26/00 | Fujii et al. | 451 | 533 | |
| | AC | US 6,267,644 B1 | 07/31/01 | Molnar | 451 | 41 | |
| | AD | US 6,276,996 B1 | 08/21/01 | Chopra | 451 | 41 | |
| | AE | | | | | | |
| | AF | | | | | | |
| | AG | | | | | | |
| | AH | | | | | | |
| | AI | | | | | | |
| | AJ | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|--|----|-----------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | AK | | | | | | | |
| | AL | | | | | | | |
| | AM | | | | | | | |
| | AN | | | | | | | |
| | AO | | | | | | | |

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| | AP | |
| | AQ | |
| | AR | |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).